

### REMARKS

Applicant has submitted a request for continued examination (or RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114. The request is appropriate as it complies with the requirements set out at 37 CFR § 1.114(a). In particular:

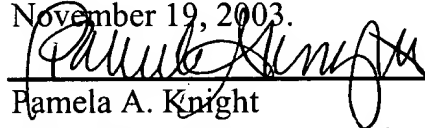
- i) Prosecution in the application is closed, as a Notice of Allowability has been received in the application dated November 15, 2002;
- ii) The request is accompanied by a submission, specifically the amendment to the claims set out above; and
- iii) The request is accompanied by the fee set forth at 37 CFR § 1.17(e).

If there are any questions regarding this paper, or the application as a whole, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney so that allowance of the claims can be facilitated.

### CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

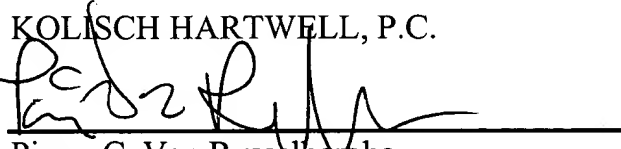
Respectfully submitted,

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on November 19, 2003.

  
Pamela A. Knight

Date of Signature: November 19, 2003

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